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By JOHN C. O'BRIEN

Inquirer Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 19.—The State Department announced Tuesday that 40 microphones deeply embedded in the walls of the American Embassy in Moscow had been found and destroyed.

A strong protest note was delivered Tuesday to the Soviet Foreign Office by Ambassador Roy Kohler. State Department officials said that the Foreign Office informed Kohler that it would like to look into the matter.

State Department security officials described the "bugging" of the embassy in Moscow as the worst case of electronic spying by a friendly country that they had ever encountered.

WIDESPREAD PRACTICE

The 40 microphones in the embassy, the State Department said, constituted the most recent disclosure of a continuing effort to penetrate American posts behind the Iron Curtain with listening devices and microphones. Prior to the discovery in Moscow, more than 130 such devices of various types had been located and removed from embassy buildings in the capitals of all the satellite countries since 1949.

Whether the Russians obtained significant sensitive information through the bugging of the embassy has not been determined. The State Department said a review is being made to determine whether American diplomatic secrecy has been compromised.

The microphones in the embassy at Moscow apparently have been there since 1953, although none had been found until last month.

AP Wirephoto

Hole in wall discloses hiding place of one of more than 40 microphones discovered in American Embassy in Moscow by security men checking building.

U. S. Says 40 Mikes 'Bugged' Moscow Embassy for Decade

PRECAUTIONS TAKEN

American personnel had been instructed always to act on the assumption that their offices and residences had been bugged and precautions had been taken to insure secrecy when sensitive information was being handled. In many of the American embassies, specially constructed rooms have been built where sensitive discussions could take place without audio-penetration.

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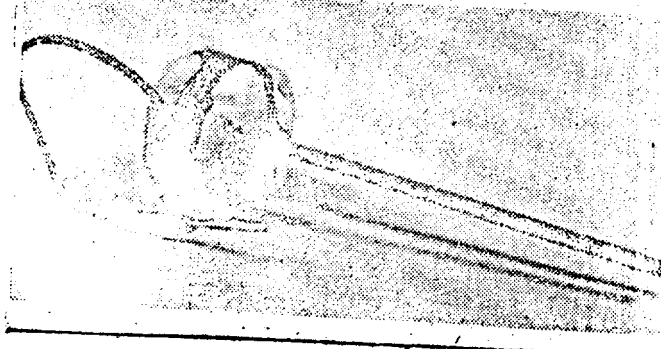
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LOS ANGELES TIMES

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HIDDEN 'EAR'—Small tube, arrow, found in the American Embassy in Moscow when security men dug into the walls was connected to a secret microphone like one shown below, the U.S. State Department said in releasing these photos.



Soviet 'Bugs' Found in U.S. Embassy Walls

BY RICHARD RESTON
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON. — The United States Tuesday announced the discovery of more than 40 secret micro-

phones buried deep in the walls of the American Embassy in Moscow.

Ranking officials here termed the dramatic discovery of these listening devices the "worst and most extensive" penetration of American security behind the Iron Curtain.

U.S. Ambassador Foy Kohler delivered to the Soviet Foreign Ministry a strong formal protest. It was understood the note not only announced what U.S. security officers had uncovered, but protested the listening devices as a gross violation of normal diplomatic practice.

Security Review

Informed sources said the microphones apparently had been in place since 1952 or 1953. The United States took over the embassy in May, 1953.

The disclosure prompted an extensive review both here and in Moscow to determine whether any sensitive information affecting the national security of this country had fallen into Russian hands.

In a brief formal state-

ment, the State Department said that "during the past month a network of microphones has been found deeply embedded in the walls of the American Embassy in

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